

## REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is submitted to amend the claims. Claims 1-24 are currently pending. With this amendment, claims 1, 4, 12, 15, 23, and 24 have been amended.

It is respectfully urged that the subject application is now in condition for allowance. The examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number if in the opinion of the examiner such a telephone conference would expedite or aid the prosecution and examination of this application.

DATE: November 3, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Duke W. Yee", is written over a horizontal line.

Duke W. Yee  
Reg. No. 34,285  
Carstens, Yee & Cahoon, LLP  
P.O. Box 802334  
Dallas, TX 75380  
(972) 367-2001  
Attorney for Applicant